

GUIDELINES FOR MINOR RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPING IN THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

Traffic Bylaw 5590, Section 58, describes that the surface of boulevards, excluding sidewalks and driveways, shall be grass. A Permit authorizing modification of boulevard is required for landscaping adjacent to private property. These guidelines permit use of boulevard space for residential landscaping.

What is Landscaping within road right-of-way?

Landscaping within road right-of-way is all plantings, surface treatments (including mulch and washed rock), irrigation systems, and structures (including landscaping wall and planters) placed within the Municipal road right-of-way by adjacent land owners and their tenants.

Conditions that must be met on road right-of-way:

1. Sidewalks on road right-of-way must remain free of obstruction.
2. Fencing or otherwise enclosing the road right-of-way to prevent public access is not permitted.
3. Landscaping between curb face and front of sidewalk is not permitted.
4. Water features and/or ponds are not permitted on road right-of-way. This condition does not apply to landscape irrigation systems as noted below.

Conditions for landscaping on residential road right-of-way:

1. Landscaping cannot encroach within 0.6m back of sidewalk, or 2.1m back of curb face (or edge of asphalt) when sidewalk is not present.
2. Landscaping plants must not exceed 1.05m above sidewalk grade, and be maintained in this condition.
3. Landscaping excavation and planting must not be below 0.3m below existing sidewalk or boulevard grade.
4. Landscaping structures must not exceed 0.3m above existing sidewalk or boulevard grade.
5. Landscaping irrigation systems are permitted but cannot spray sidewalk, parking lanes or travel lanes.
6. No landscaping is permitted within alley road right-of-way.
7. At alley intersections, no landscaping is permitted within 3.0m back of sidewalk or boulevard curb face and 2.0m back of edge of alley asphalt (or 1.0m from edge of alley right-of-way when alley asphalt is not present).

Please be advised, that should the City, due to roadway maintenance, utility work, construction, or other need, cause any landscaping to be removed, damaged, or covered, the adjacent landowner (or their tenant) is entirely responsible to replace, repair, or un-cover any landscaping, at no cost to the City, if it so chooses. A person who contravenes these Guidelines without Permit is guilty an offence by way of Bylaw 5590, and subject to applicable fines and penalties.